

(1984) 96: 253 . . . with some duplication of records!), suggesting that it may have a growing distribution in the west of Scotland. On 14.v.1987 I collected four of the more ragged of the previous year's *Typha latifolia* heads seen at Morton Lochs NNR, Fife (v.c.85), from which about 15 moths duly emerged in vii.1987, showing *L. phragmitella* to be present in eastern Scotland as well. Much *Typha* was apparently uninfested, suggesting that the moth may be a very recent arrival at that site or possibly that it is under extreme environmental pressure there. No larval parasites were reared, but in my experience *L. phragmitella* is infrequently parasitised as a larva, and then only in extremely rich wetland sites such as the Norfolk Broads, where I have reared a few of the ichneumonid *Diadegma hygrobia* (Thomson) (det. K. Horstmann) from it, though more generalised parasites can be reared from collections of its pupae almost anywhere. I saw no evidence of excessive predation from anthocorid bugs or birds at Morton Lochs. The Scottish Insect Records Index maintained here (see *Ent. Rec.* (1987) 99: 37-38) has been invaluable for the preparation of this note, and I am grateful to Pete Kinnear, NCC, for arranging access to Morton Lochs NNR. MARK R. SHAW, Royal Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF.

ISCHNOSCIA BORREONELLA (MILLIERE) (LEP.: TINEIDAE) — In 1985 (*Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland* 2: 165) I wrote that *Ischnoscia borreonella* had not been seen in Britain since 1926 and I believe this was still the situation when on 15.viii.1987 I collected a female specimen at Portland, Dorset, one of the two former British localities.

Dr. John Langmaid and I were preparing to collect with mercury-vapour light in a sheltered spot on the east side of Portland, and while it was still light enough to see small moths without the aid of a torch I was lucky enough to see this minute tineid fly past at eye level. Unfortunately it was the only one we saw.

The biology of this species is completely unknown. The rocks at the scene of capture are rather bare, and perhaps the larvae feed on some sort of detritus in rock crevices. E. C. PELHAM-CLINTON, Furzeleigh House, Lyme Road, Axminster, Devon, EX13 5SW.

DORCATOMA SERRA PANZ. (COL.: ANOBIIDAE) IN WEST NORFOLK — This uncommon or very local species is already on record from East Norfolk (near Norwich, and Catfield Fen. — cf. *Ent. Rec.* 95:248) but so far not, I think, from the western vice-county. I have lately, however, determined as *D. serra* a few specimens swept from a fair-sized oak in the boundary hedge of a country garden belonging to my friends Mr. and Mrs. A.W. Gould at Foulden,

near Swaffham. Three were taken on 10.vii.85, and one or two in earlier years similarly. *D. serra* develops in certain tree fungi, but none was apparent on the oak concerned, which looked quite sound externally. — A. A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, London, SE7.

EGG-LAYING CATOCALA PROMISSA D.&S., THE LIGHT CRIMSON UNDERWING (LEP.: NOCTUIDAE) — In view of the apparent difficulty in obtaining eggs of this species, it may be of interest to record that a female captured on 25.vii.1987 in Hampshire laid eight eggs between 2nd and 6th August.

Eggs were laid on netting covering a small, circular container (kept out of doors); tissue paper in the container and one directly on honey-impregnated tissue used to feed the moth. Materials in the container not utilised included cork bark, oak bark, leaves and damp moss used to keep the humidity high. J. PLATTS, 11 Maydowns Road, Chestfield, Whitstable, Kent.

ZYRAS HAWORTHII. STEPH. (COL.: STAPHYLINIDAE) IN DORSET — A single specimen of this rarely recorded beetle was taken from leaf litter in a Dorset Naturalists Trust reserve at Brackett's Copse, Harwood on 12.v.1987. Recent records of this species have been summarised by Appleton (1971, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* **107**: 256), and includes a fairly recent record from Studland, Dorset. Fowler (1888, *Col. Brit. Isl.* **2**: 56) gives a 19th century record from Bloxworth by C. P. Cambridge. This capture seems to be the third recorded for Dorset, and the most westerly one. Previous records are mainly from Surrey, with Essex and the New Forest also included.

The leaf litter was collected either lying in the open or amongst ramsons (*Allium ursinum*), from a damp area near the stream which flows through the reserve. On this occasion, no ants were seen, and this brightly coloured beetle was probably on the move. P. D. ORTON, 22 Lyewater, Crewkerne, Somerset.

A SCOTTISH SPECIMEN OF COLEOPHORA ALNIFOLIAE BARASCH (LEP.: COLEOPHORIDAE) — A male specimen of this species has remained unrecognized in my collection for the last 36 years, collected at Camghouran, Rannoch, Perthshire (v.c. 88), probably with the aid of a Tilley lamp, on 23.vi.1951. Both alder and birch are abundant in this area. I made a genitalia slide from the specimen in 1951, but did not have sufficient information to identify it correctly at that time and it came to be placed amongst my *C. milvipennis* Zeller. Recently I re-examined my slides in the light of the paper by Karsholt & Nielsen (1978, *Ent. Meddr* **46**: 1-16) and Emmet's (1980, *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **92**: 129-138) translation of their keys to species by genitalia. Karsholt & Nielsen's photographs have been reproduced too faintly to be able to recog-